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29 July 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR FILE

FROM :
SUBJECT : Summer Area Program

In connection with the absences from lectures during the week of 21 July, I have discussed matters with of OSO. Because he knew a number of the students quite well, he was able to get unofficial and confidential opinions on the lectures on South East Asia from a few individuals. The comments were as follows:

Some lecturers were considered excellent, others mediocre, but none were considered to be poor. Complaints were that those who were classed as mediocre did not allow for discussion and the lectures were not well organized. (Note: Since these men are giving one or at most two lectures a week, there is no excuse for poorly organized lectures.) The men dealt in generalities rather than in "specifics". Just what these specifics were he did not say. He did point out, however, that since the people on the FE desks were well equipped to do their work, they were well informed on the generalities and therefore needed to be given more specific material if they were to profit from the lectures.

Suggestions were made and concurred in by most of the students in the South East Asia program that they would prefer to attend lectures from 8:30 until 10:30 in the morning. Two objections to this idea were raised. One was that one student could not conveniently get to R & S on time. The other was that at a particular desk, most of the important work had to be done first thing in the morning. No change is contemplated in the hours of the lectures for the remaining two weeks of this course.



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